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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13 EB-08
TRSE-00 MC-02 ACDA-10 /097 W
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R 251448Z JAN 77
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1451
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION USUN
USIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 0542

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SY
SUBJECT: SYRIAN MEDIA SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 25

1. PEOPLE'S COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET
RECEIVED TOP BILLING IN SYRIAN MEDIA. AL-BAATH HEADLINED:
"GOVERNMENT WILL KEEP PRICES OF STAPLE COMMODITIES FIXED.
THE FOURTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN IS NOW READY." TISHRIIN, WHOSE
EDITOR NOW IN U.S., BANNERED: "WALDHEIM EXPRESSES HIS
GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION FOR PRES. ASAD AND THANKS SYRIA
FOR ITS CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION WITH THE UN."

2. MAIN TARGETS OF SARG DURING NEXT FIVE-YEAR PLAN,
ACCORDING ACCOMPANYING ARTICLES, WERE COMPLETING PROJECTS
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ALREADY EMBARKED UPON AND IMPROVING THE COUNTRY'S
ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM IN ORDER TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY.

3. MEDIA REPORTED LEBANESE CABINET CONSIDERATION OF
PLAN TO ESTABLISH DEVELOPMENT AND RECONSTRUCTION COUNCIL
WHICH WOULD BE EMPOWERED TO CARRY OUT PROJECTS AND OBTAIN
FINANCING FROM A JOINT ARAB FUND TO BE ESTABLISHED FOR

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LEBANESE RECONSTRUCTION. SAME ARTICLES GAVE ATTENTION
TO STATEMENTS OF LEBANESE PRIMIN HUSS ON HEAVY WEAPONS AND
ADMINISTRATION OF COUNTRY. HUSS QUOTED SAYING: "WHEN
THE ADF SUSPECTS A CACHE OF WEAPONS, THEY WILL NOT HESITATE
TO INVADE IT." HE ALSO REPORTED AS ENDORSING ADMINISTRATIVE
DECENTRALIZATION WHILE OPPOSING POLITICAL DECENTRALIZATION.
ADF SAID TO HAVE CONSOLIDATED THEIR POSITIONS IN ACHRIFIEH.

4. EDITORIAL IN AL-THAWRAH SOUNDED OMINOUS WARNING TO
FACTIONS IN LEBANON STILL POSSESSING HEAVY WEAPONS. COLUMNIST
WROTE THAT CHECKING OF LISTS OF HEAVY WEAPONS COLLECTED
FROM PALESTINIAN AND LEBANESE FACTIONS REVEALED THAT "THERE
STILL MORE (HEAVY WEAPONS) IN THE HANDS OF THE MILITIAS."
COLUMNIST NOTED THIS MEANT CERTAIN PARTIES STILL ATTEMPTING
AVOID HANDING OVER THEIR WEAPONS WHICH WOULD ENDANGER
SECURITY SITUATION AND THREATEN LIFE IN THE COUNTRY. AFFIRMING
THAT PRES. SARKIS ISSUED ORDERS TO COS OF ADF TO DO WHAT
NECESSARY TO "PURGE THE COUNTRY OF ALL TYPES OF DISORDER
AND CONFUSION", COLUMNIST EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT ADF WOULD
COMPLY WITH THESE ORDERS AND "NO OBSTACLES OR DIFFICULTIES
WILL STOP THEM."
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: SYRIAN MEDIA SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 25
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, SOPN, SY
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